The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Samuel Gompers said:
That for which our movement stands will tend to make better workers of our future citizens, better citizens of our future workers.

WHOLE NO. 2046 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 26

Accepts Gompers Pen

Chicago.—Marshall Field (left), Chicago Publisher, receives Samuel Gompers memorial fountain pen from Samuel Laderman, president Local 241 of AFL International Chemical Workers Union, at luncheon after Mr. Field suggested a Samuel Gompers Memorial Fund for Roosevelt College.

Daughter's Death Broke His Heart

By FLORENCE GOMPERS MacKAY

(Granddaughter of Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL, sets down some of her recollections of the late Charles C. Finch, Union Union. Union. Second of two articles.)

Washington.—When grandfather Finch was away from Washington on the innumerable trips he had to make all over the United States and in other countries, he was never too busy to send us messages on picture cards showing points of interest. He was never too pressed to find time to purchase a personal souvenir for each of us at home.

During World War I, I was with the American Red Cross in France. It was at this time that grandfather was in Paris serving as chairman of the International Labor Commission. I wrote him from Savenay, where I was stationed, and he invited me to be roommate and me to come to Paris to visit him. There were a memorable four days for me. He took us to the Hotel Crillon—where the Peace Conference had its headquarters and we were permitted to sit in the background and watch him preside over this labor conference with its representatives from almost every country in the world. It was shortly after the Armistice and he had arranged for our entertainment an automobile trip to Chateau-Thierry, Soissons and Belleau Woods. One of my most vivid recollections is of grandfather and the rest of the party standing in the bleak ruins of the old hunting lodge in Belleau Woods, eating our lunch and surveying the devastation on all sides, with the remnants of battle not yet cleared away, dimly seen through a light covering of snow.

All was not grim during that trip to Paris, however. One evening when he was busy, grandfather wanted to take us to the theater. He directed his secretary, Mr. Dyster, to secure tickets to a good show. Our party of about six arrived at the theater with great anticipation, but before we were through the first quarter of the first act it was evident to all that we were witnessing a French drama of the heaviest type, and since none of us are fluent in French, to the audience about us. Our courtly grandfather left us when great discomfort abruptly stood up and started out of the theater with all of us trailing behind. He commandeered a taxi and we were soon comfortably seated at the Follies Bergere. Some of the show was also given in French, but most of it was in universal language readily understood by the prosperous audience of Americans, British, Anzacs, and Canadians. Oh, yes, French!

During our visit, grandfather tried to have as many meals with us as the press of conference and other work would permit and it was agreed that we should meet him each morning for breakfast. This usually turned out to be a three-ring circus with telephone calls being brought to the table, requests for interviews by reporters, messengers dashing up, etc. A couple of times I remember he even had to give up and move to another table and let us eat alone.

Of his large family of children only six reached adulthood, and when I was a very small child at the time, I distinctly recall how very much he was affected by the deaths of a son and a daughter just a few years apart. However, the great sorrow of his life was the sudden death during the flu epidemic in 1918 of his youngest daughter. She was the mother of his children still living at home and his adored one. The war was still going on, he was in Italy at the time of her death, and I believe that he never recovered from the shock of this blow. One of the most touching moments I have experienced was, many months later, when I was present at his house when he opened a trunk containing the beautiful things he had purchased abroad for his beloved daughter. He and grandmother went over each lovely article.

When grandfather left Washington for that last fateful trip to Texas, my father, who was his eldest son, my 2-year-old daughter, and I went to see him off. He was somewhat late, his car was the last one of a very long train, and the railroad men tried to have him get on one of the nearer cars. But feeble as he was he insisted on walking the entire distance, although he observed that it seemed as if he were walking to Texas. My little daughter was wearing a light red beret. He called her his "little red light" and walked the length of the train holding on to her hand. When he was finally aboard, to the dismay of the train people and his own party he insisted on standing, well-supported, of course, on the upper step of the car as it pulled out.

Always a man of large and generous heart and he had arranged for our entertainment on automobile trip to Chateau-Thierry, Soissons and Belleau Woods. One of my most vivid recollections is of grandfather and the rest of the party standing in the bleak ruins of the old hunting lodge in Belleau Woods, eating our lunch and surveying the devastation on all sides, with the remnants of battle not yet cleared away, dimly seen through a light covering of snow.

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Senate Committee to Investigate Defeats of Sens. Graham and Pepper

Washington.—Sen. Guy Gillette, chairman of the Senate subcommittee policing this year's senatorial elections, will investigate the races in Florida where Sen. Claude Pepper was defeated and in North Carolina where Sen. Frank P. Graham was beaten on June 24.

Sen. Gillette said he will send investigators also into Pennsylvania, Illinois and South Carolina where other Fair Deal supporters and incumbents are running for renomination against big-spending reactionaries.

Twice previously the U. S. Senate has refused to seat men elected to that body for excessive campaign expenditures.

Phenomenal sums were spent to defeat Pepper and Graham and are being poured into Pennsylvania, Illinois, South Carolina against Sens. Francis J. Myers, Scott Lucas and Olin D. Johnston, and in California and other states to beat liberal nominees.

Big money, the racial issue, and a decline in liberal votes caused Sen. Graham's upset in North Carolina.

The senator led a 3-man field by more than 50,000 votes in the first primary and failed of nomination then only by lacking 5,000 votes of a clear majority. He was forced into a run-off with Willis Smith, former president of the American Bar Association, whose supporters stooped to a smear-Graham campaign hideous to behold.

Mr. Smith won by more than 20,000 votes.

Labor-liberal votes for Sen. Graham stayed home, as already pointed out. The senator received 352,000 votes in the first primary and all of a 50,000 plurality. In the runoff, his total dropped to 251,000 while Mr. Smith picked up 225,000 votes. About 75,000 Graham voters failed to go to the polls.

Which proves again that register and vote is the only way to win an election. More than 1,000,000 men in that direction at once in every state if a liberal Congress is to be elected.

Labor's goal this year was to hold the line anti-Taft-Hartley seats and pick up 5 more to assure a repeal bill passage in 1951 or 1952. So far labor has failed to hold its own and the net loss is 2 friends of the people.

OVERRIDE VETO

Washington.—The House overrode President Truman's veto of a bill backed by AFL postal unions which would give World War II veterans who later became postal employes veterans' credit for their military time.

The AFL unions were hopeful of having the Senate also override the veto and make the bill law. The National Association of Post Office Clerks said the veto "was a keen disappointment . . . a crushing blow to thousands of young veterans."

Texans Make Good For 2 Who Abscond

Harlingen, Texas.—AFL unions in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas voted to publish a newspaper to make good upwards of $6,000 taken by 2 men who had been entrusted to edit and publish a labor paper.

W. J. Cullens, secretary-treasurer Central Labor Union of the Lower Rio Grande Valley, advised AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany that all AFL unions should be on the lookout for 2 men who were wearing a Stetson hat, White and J. W. Hammond, the latter also known as Bill Baker.

Mr. Cullens said that the 2 men had been hired to edit a labor paper backed by the Central Labor Union after investigation revealed that reliable references from Virginia, Arkansas and North Carolina. He said the men disappeared with over $6,000 worth of advertising and subscription money and left bills around $500 for telephone service; $400 for engraving and photography.

"We are planning on making good all the advertising and subscriptions that previously were secured by the men putting out a labor paper sponsored by all the local unions here," Mr. Cullens said. "Through a medium of newspaper ads, we hope to be able to locate the men who disappeared with over $6,000 worth of advertising and subscription money and left bills around $500 for telephone service; $400 for engraving and photography.

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Compers Fund For Labor College

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent of AFL News Service

Chicago.—A Samuel Gompers Memorial Fund to coordinate support of Roosevelt College by organized labor has been established by a joint committee of AFL, CIO and independent unions here in Chicago.

The idea of such a memorial to the first president of the American Federation of Labor was suggested to 45 labor leaders here by Marshall Field, publisher of the Chicago Sun-Times.

No quota has been set but the fund was off to a flying start with a total of $65,702 contributed by 2,000 guests at a dinner in the Sheraton Hotel June 8, on the fifth anniversary of the college's founding.

Principal speaker at the dinner was Vice President Alben Barkley. William A. Lee, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, was representative of the AFL; Ralph Helstein, of the CIO, printers' union, who described Gompers as "the social architect of our people."

Samuel Gompers' whole life," said Mr. Di Pietro, "was an effort to educate the workers of America and the management to the social and economic benefits of free collective bargaining."

The Gompers fund will be used to pay for scholarships, improve the physical plant and help in the direction of the college trustees. Roosevelt College is the only American college with a labor education division and an even longer record with its schools of arts and letters.

REPRESENTED CANADA

Ottawa, Canada.—Claude Jodoin, Montreal, vice president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, served as Canadian workers' delegate to ILO.

Mark Rutgers Jubilee

New Brunswick, N. J.—Vincent J. Murphy (center), secretary-treasurer New Jersey Federation of Labor and chairman joint planning committee of the 200th Jubilee Institute of Labor at Rutgers University, discusses program preparations with Harry Wender (left), New York, vice president International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and Sal Mosca (right), Paterson, N. J., president New Jersey Building and Construction Trades Council.

SIGNS RENT BILL

Washington.—President Truman signed into law the rent control bill which keeps federal curbs until Dec. 31, 1950.

The law permits local governments to continue federal controls after that date until June 30, 1951, if they vote to do so.

Meany Visits Rome

Rome, Italy.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, as he alighted from train, was greeted by officials of the Italian Confederation of Free Trade Unions (L to r.) Aquile Claudio Ricchi, vice secretary; Enrico Parri, secretary, and Giuseppe Canini, secretary.

CARE FOR INDIA

New York.—Food, clothing and tools to bring immediate help to the destitute and scientific know-how for a better future, can now be sent to India through CARE.

Paul Comly French, executive director of the Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe, announced that, effective at once, orders will be accepted for 2 types of CARE services to that country: A special $10 food package; an $8.50 clothing and textile package, and the CARE-UNESCO Book Fund, which accepts contributions in any amount.

Orders or contributions for packages or books can be mailed to the AFL-sponsored CARE, 20 Broad St., New York 5, N. Y. The agency has established a mission in New Delhi and the first packages, to be accepted awaiting delivery orders, will arrive in India on July 1.

NLRB Cutback Hits Southern Campaign

Atlanta, Ga.—Beneath of congressional reduction in the federal budget for the National Labor Relations Board is a reduction will be felt in the force of the National Labor Relations Board.

J. L. Rhodes, southern director of the American Federation of Labor, said this cut may further curtail the services of the NLRB to the American Federation of Labor in the South.

It is feared that any further reduction of the services from the National Labor Relations Board will render that federal agency entirely useless to the labor movement.

During the organizing campaigns of the various AFL international unions in the South, it is incumbent upon them to use the labor board in many instances.

It is now evident that from 2 to 6 months are required to process a simple election petition. It has been a thing of unfair labor practices cases from one to 3 years or more are required to handle these cases.

In view of these facts, many labor representatives have expressed the opinion to the Atlanta office of the International Federation of Labor that the reduction in forces of the National Labor Relations Board, by termination of approximately 160 employes, will have the net effect of wrecking the service the board has been able to render to AFL unions.

Declare your independence by buying Independence Bonds.

ILO Listener

Geneva, Switzerland. — President Leo George of AFL National Association of Letter Carriers, is presently attending the 33rd session of International Labor Organization conference in Geneva. He attended as adviser to U. S. Workers Delegate George P. Delaney.

Senate Hikes Social Security Payments

Washington.—The following tables show the social security changes approved by the Senate as compared with present levels and the changes approved by the House last year:

Increases for Those Now Receiving Benefits

Average Monthly Wage	Present	House	Senate	Maximum Senate
$10	$25	$20	$30	$45
15	31	31	50	67
20	34	42	70	90
25	44	43	78	105

Average Monthly Wage	Present	House	Senate	Maximum Senate
$10	$25	$40	$50	$75
15	31	50	55	82
20	34	60	68	150
25	44	78	64	72
30	45	64	72	180

(1) Same for both House and Senate bills.

(2) Example: A worker who has been receiving $30 a month would receive $51 under the House bill or $56 under the Senate bill. His maximum family benefit would be $113.)

Benefit for Worker With Five Years' Full Coverage

Average Monthly Wage	Present	House	Senate
$25	$50	$60	$60
30	51	60	60
40	56	68	68
50	62	68	68
60	68	72	72
70	72	72	72

Benefit for Worker With 40 Years' Full Coverage

Average Monthly Wage	Present	House	Senate
$25	$50	$60	$60
30	51	60	60
40	56	68	68
50	62	68	68
60	68	72	72
70	72	72	72

A widow of a covered worker receives three-quarters of the benefit her husband would have received.

A retired worker receives an additional 50 percent of his benefit when his wife reaches 65. He would also receive an extra three-quarters of his benefit for his first child under 18 when he retires. For each additional child under 18, he receives an extra 50 percent of his benefit.

The maximum family benefit a worker can receive per month under the House and Senate bills is $150—or 80 percent of his average monthly wage. Present law has an $85 ceiling for family unit benefits.

Woll Tells Germans U.S. Won't Appease

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York.—The American Federation of Labor had informed Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of the Federal Republic of Germany that his recent address in which he made it appear that America and Russia were equally responsible for the threat to peace "has produced a disturbed effect among Americans who attach great importance to the maintenance of friendship and close cooperation between the United States and the reborn democratic Republic of Germany."

In a 2,500-word letter sent to the Bonn Republic chief, Matthew Woll, second vice president and chairman of the AFL International Labor Relations Committee, Adenauer was charged for using political reasoning which "flies in the face of and is in complete contradiction to all the facts of recent history."

The AFL letter followed a report by Speech by Chancellor Adenauer contained in the New York Times May 22.

Mr. Woll protested Adenauer's holding the United States and the Soviet Union equally responsible in the presently dangerous state of world affairs.

He charged that there is today increasing evidence of a tendency that certain German industrialists are seeking contacts and trade relations with the countries behind the Iron Curtain" which "the leadership seems to do business as usual with Russia and her satellites, even to the point that for the Soviet Union foreign trade is not an economic factor but primarily a method of political infiltration, subversion and espionage."

Woll could you then, Mr. Chancellor, even in the slightest degree discern a sign of equation between the aggressive policies of Soviet totalitarian dictatorship and the constructive efforts of our democracy, primarily a great American democracy which has given proof of its peaceful intentions and earnest progressive spirit?

Mr. Woll warned that that appeasement, which has failed to preserve peace back in the Munich days, offers "no reasonable prospect of avoiding the catastrophe of an international conflagration," he said:

"In this light, it is equally clear that all policies of appeasement by the United States would not reduce international tensions but would, on the contrary, aggravate it by encouraging and—in effect, if not always in intent—actually aiding Soviet aggression and expansion.

"It can be underscored with full justification that it is America's only final break with appeasement that has made possible the defense of being overrun and seized by Stalin's armed hordes."

Meany Pledges AFL Support to Italians

Rome, Italy.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany told Italian free trade union leaders that the American Federation of Labor is eager to help the Italian people solve their economic problems.

Mr. Meany conferred with leaders of the Italian Confederation of Free Trade Unions on methods of greater collaboration between the 2 countries and the best way for American workers to express their solidarity with the Italian people.

His visit here was one of several important assignments which in the next few weeks took Mr. Meany to Brussels for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions executive board meeting and to Geneva for some sessions of the International Labor Organization.

Mr. Meany congratulated the Italian labor movement on its most successful unification of the different trade union groups in the country.

Reading For Sen. Donnell

(The following is reprinted from the U. S. Chamber of Commerce Bulletin. Senator Donnell is Senator Donnell, sponsor of a no-strike law for the railroads, will have one more chance to read and learn if he missed it in the American publication.)

By WILLIAM B. BARTON
U. S. Employer Adviser for ILO

Geneva.—The International Labor Organization (ILO) Conference has progressed at Geneva, Switzerland, it has been demonstrated, to the point where representatives of industrial relations the United States and Canada can use different language from the rest of the world.

This difference is sharply illustrated when discussion turns to the subject of arbitration and arbitration, and cooperation between industries and employers' and worker organizations.

In the Committee discussions of such subjects at the conference, employers from other countries have been at a loss to understand how an agreement between a single employer and a labor organization could be considered a collective agreement.

Their remarks and debates have indicated that they think only in terms of industry-wide or multi-employer bargaining.

Part of this difference arises out of the cartel system. Many European businessmen simply fail to understand our competitive system. They act through groups that minimize competitive baffle them.

In the field of compulsory arbitration, however, there has been quite uniform employer understanding. The employers from other countries gain more in opposing it.

Employers who have experienced compulsory arbitration seem most opposed to it. One example is a member of the Australian delegation. The system of compulsory arbitration in his country, he says, has virtually preempted the field.

The result is that collective bargaining in practice has been ended in Australia. Rather, wage terms and working conditions are determined by court decree, a system which leaves the employer and worker alike, meanwhile, the country still has strikes.

PICKS DELEGATES

Washington.—AFL President William Green announced appointment as AFL fraternal delegates to the convention of the British Trades Union Congress, at Brighton, England, Sept. 4, Samuel Rose, United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union, and President Joseph P. McCurdy, United Garment Workers of America.

Knowland Wrecker Key Security Vote

Washington.—Labor's League for Political Education labelled Sen. Knowland's 81-2 vote for bigger and better social security "an election year gimmick which didn't mean a thing."

The vote on the security vote was on an amendment by Sen. William Knowland (R., Calif.) to the House bill, accepted, 45-37.

The amendment would wreck the entire unemployment compensation system of the social security program. The federal government helps states finance their unemployment compensation program. That's done to make sure all workers get benefits and not help, no matter where they live or what they do for a living.

But under Knowland's scheme each state could set its own unemployment compensation standards. And the federal government would do nothing about it.

The AFL is making an effort to have the amendment knocked out of the bill. The House-Senate conference now in progress before the final act is passed and sent to President Truman.

10,000,000 More Under Security

Washington.—Here are the groups that would be included in the social security program for the first time under the House bill:

1. 5,000,000 non-farm self-employed persons, mostly small businessmen and storekeepers.

2. 1,000,000 state and local government employes not covered by their own retirement systems. These would be on a voluntary basis.

3. 1,000,000 farm workers who work 14 days a week for a single employer.

4. 1,000,000 domestic workers who work 2 days a week for a single employer.

5. 400,000 employes of non-profit organizations.

6. 200,000 employes of organizations owned or operated by religious groups.

7. 300,000 processors of farm products.

8. 400,000 workers in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

9. 200,000 federal civilian employes not covered by civil service retirement plans.

10. 150,000 full-time life insurance salesmen.

11. 100,000 full-time wholesale salesmen.

12. 150,000 American employes of American firms abroad.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
SUPPLEMENT

Samuel Gompers said:
Essential to the welfare and independence of the masses is the free exercise of certain of their rights and powers in the economic field.

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Green Asks Support For Health Agency

Washington.—AFL President William Green called on international unions, state federations and central labor unions to support establishment of a Department of Health, Education and Security in President Truman's Cabinet.

"The American Medical Association is flooding members of Congress with letters and telegrams opposing it," Mr. Green messaged affiliated groups.

President Truman asked Congress to create the new cabinet post by transferring functions and agencies of the Federal Security Agency. His plan goes into effect July 31 if neither House nor Senate disapproves.

But resolutions of disapproval have been introduced by Rep. Clare Hoffman and Senator Robert A. Taft.

"The volume of mail received in support of the plan may well be the deciding factor," Mr. Green said. "I urge you not only to send letters expressing the views of your national or international union in support of the plan but to do everything possible to secure similar action on the part of local unions and from individuals."

The letters should express opposition to H. Res. 647 and Sen. Res. 305.

New Member

Washington.—Rep. Hugh B. Mitchell of Washington, labor's friend, was elected by the House to the Labor and Education Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Rep. John Lesinski of Michigan.

T-H Sold Short On Free Bargaining

Taniment, Pa.—The vast influence exercised by Samuel Gompers on the growth of organized labor and democratic institutions in this country was emphasized in speeches made at the 16th annual conference of the Taniment Social and Economic Institute held by the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

"Samuel Gompers was the Abraham Lincoln of the American labor movement," Ralph Wright, Assistant Secretary of Labor, who headed a long list of distinguished speakers, told the conference.

Other speakers were heard by the conference on the subject, "Gompers —and a Century of Labor."

Dr. George W. Taylor, University of Pennsylvania professor and former War Labor Board chairman, noted that Gompers had always stressed the value of collective agreements voluntarily reached, said that the basic defect in the approach of Taft-Hartley Act proponents was their lack of faith in the ability of labor and management to resolve their controls intelligently and fairly.

He said that Congress, in passing the Taft-Hartley Act, had "sold short on the ability of men in New York industrial leaders to work out their own solutions," and had "unreasonably and inaccurately assumed" that Congress could better reach such solutions through "inflexible legislation" than the people directly concerned.

"Collective bargaining, which the country has accepted as a national policy since the New Deal, requires a meeting of minds," the former War Labor Board chairman declared. "Neither injunctions nor punishment, seizure of plants, as I have good reason to know, contributes toward this end."

OMIT JULY 4 ISSUE

The July 4 issue of the AFL News Service will be omitted. The next issue will be published Friday, July 7.

CIO Sues For Peace With Textile Union

New York.—President Anthony Valente of the AFL United Textile Workers called off the 11th CIO national convention that the CIO Textile Workers had sued for a no-raiding agreement.

Mr. Valente and Southern Director Joseph Jacobe related the vicious pattern of raiding followed by the CIO during the past 2 years. They reported that the AFL textile union had withstood these tactics and is now returning blow for blow.

Officials of the AFL union are hopeful that a peace agreement can be reached but in the meantime will continue a strong defense against CIO raids while pressing their own AFL organizing campaign.

Mr. Valente was reelected president and Lloyd Klenert was returned as secretary-treasurer.

Key directors reelected are Francis Schaufenbil, Lawrence, Mass., New England; Jesse Greenert, Paris de Chien, Wis., midwestern; Louis Rosen, New York; Ralph Kraase, Paterson, N. J., woven label. The per capita tax was raised by the convention from 75 to 90 cents per month. A 10 cents per month per capita was voted for the defense fund, now at $70,000 and growing.

Is Citizenship Worth Your Vote?

By GEORGE MEANY
Secretary-Treasurer American Federation of Labor and
Labor's League for Political Education
(From the July issue of The American Federationist)

Washington.—In every part of the world there are countless thousands of people who would be willing and eager to give up everything they possess for the privilege of coming to the United States and becoming American citizens. To them American citizenship is priceless. What is it, worth to you?

Unfortunately, all the indications tend to justify the conclusion that the vast majority of the American people are inclined to take their precious citizenship for granted, to forget that they have inherited both the privileges and the obligations of citizenship.

Perhaps the highest privilege of American citizenship is the right to vote in a free election. That is also the highest obligation of citizenship. Upon the right to vote and the free exercise of that right rests the whole foundation of our system of self-government. If our citizens fail to vote, democracy is bound to become a dead letter. Instead of self-government, instead of majority rule, we would then have rule by the minority.

We must see to it that our democracy continues to work for the benefit of all our people. We must keep our democracy dynamic, not lethargic. It comes down to this: the security of the American way of life depends upon the vitality of American citizens. The price of continued freedom and democracy is good citizenship.

Are you a good citizen? If you are, then you should be able to answer yes to the following questions:

Have you registered or will you register in order to vote?

Are you going to make certain to vote on November 7?

If you don't register, you can't vote in the great majority of states.

Labor's League for Political Education is trying to get out a big vote in the coming elections. We consider it our patriotic duty to convince the American people that it is of the utmost importance for them to vote.

Naturally, every voter wants to vote intelligently. It is frequently difficult, however, to judge between the conflicting claims of candidates for office, especially those running for election to Congress. In such cases, the voting records of your congressman and your senators are the best guide. Labor's League for Political Education has been receiving the votes of all members of Congress on outstanding issues. As a public service, the league will distribute pamphlets containing the voting records of congressmen and senators.

Many years ago Samuel Gompers said:

"No union member can be considered a good union member unless he is first a good citizen."

Those words are more true today than ever before. This year it is the paramount duty of every member of labor to perform his citizenship by making certain first to register and then to cast his vote next November.

House Reduces Excise Taxes

Washington.—The House passed the 1950 tax bill reducing excise taxes $1,010,000,000 on admissions, communications, transportation, toilet articles, luggage, jewelry and many other items.

The bill was sent to the Senate.

PLAN INSTITUTES

New Brunswick, N. J.—The AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union has chosen Rutgers University for the East and University of Wisconsin for the West as centers for its first summer institutes for training officers and stewards in locals east of the Mississippi.

The selection was announced by Dr. Otto Pragan, union education director.

Buy Gompers stamps!

AFL Sees Korea Peril To All; Urges We Stop Reds There

Home From Europe

New York.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and Mrs. Meany return from six weeks' business trip to Europe where the AFL official found in conferences with free trade union leaders that Russia's setbacks forced the Communists to attempt hot war in Korea.

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York.—A 7-point program of action designed to halt Soviet aggression in South Korea and thereby assure "the peace and security of the entire world" has been proposed by the Free Trade Union Committee of the AFL.

In an emergency declaration, the committee, headed by Vice President Matthew Woll, urged the following steps be taken:

1. UN, in accordance with its charter, should render all aid to Korea.

2. UN to appeal to the Soviet Union "to order its puppet North Korean regime to halt its invasion and withdraw forthwith" north of the 38th parallel.

3. If this UN appeal is fouled, full diplomatic and economic sanctions against the Soviet Union and North Korea should be taken.

4. Conclusion of a treaty of mutual aid between the U. S. and Korea and "immediate mobilization and supply machinery to chase the Russian-led invaders across the 38th parallel which the communist attack was launched."

5. Provision of military supplies and personnel essential to defeat any communist invasion.

6. Full use of the experience in Czechoslovakia, Germany, China and Korea with the communist fifth column as an auxiliary of the Soviet government in its policy of subversion, infiltration and penetration against all free countries, the Departments of National Defense, State and Justice, together with a commission of private citizens representing labor, management, the farmers and the public-at-large be charged with enacting an effective democratic program to uproot the people of communist and anti-democratic agents, agencies and activities.

7. "An address by President Truman before a joint session of the House and Senate in support of the above program to be followed by a free vote of each American people the gravity of the crisis."

The committee's statement declared: "Korea is merely a small and distant land. The tragic plight of the Korean people is a grave peril to all of us. The cynical rulers of expansionist Russia are striking through the Koreans at all free nations. We are convinced that the American people, and especially organized labor in the United States, would be the first to cheer to stop the communist aggression in Korea than in California."

The statement pointed out that Korea elected the UN, had recently held democratic elections and had established a free social republic all this despite a powerful fifth column supported by the Soviet Union. The United States, under UN supervision, voluntarily withdrew from Korea our army of liberation in contrast to Soviet policy which refused the UN the right to supervise "withdrawal" of Soviet troops from North Korea.

Meany Says Reds Losing in Europe Switched to Hot War in Korea

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent of AFL News Service

New York.—George Meany, AFL secretary-treasurer, returning from a 6 weeks' tour of western Europe, stated that the Soviet Union is most certainly losing the cold war which, he added, "may be the reason for switching to a hot war policy."

The statement was a reference to the communist attack on South Korea which was announced by our government the day Mr. Meany returned.

Amplifying his opinion that the Soviet Union is being defeated politically in Europe, Mr. Meany said that Tito defection was giving encouragement to nonconmunists behind the Iron Curtain.

"The highlight of the European situation," said Mr. Meany, "is Italy, where all the free trade unions have now been welded into one movement—Socialist and Christian, with 2,000,000 members and it is really functioning. In Italy the fight is between the communist unions and the Pastore-led free unions."

Secondly, Albania, a Soviet satellite, is virtually useless to the Soviet Union militarily and politically, because it is overrun with opposition and surrounded by Tito-Yugoslavia and anticommunist Greece.

Reporters during the shipboard conference with the AFL official asked if Tito would be received in the International Confederation of Free Trade Union if Yugoslav trade unions applied for admission. Without a second's hesitation, Mr. Meany, who had recently attended an ICFTU executive council session in Brussels, replied, "No." He said:

"Yugoslav unions are still unions in name only, government-controlled. The situation with Tito is like what Hitler attacked the Russians in 1941. We all rooted for the Russians but we didn't get into bed with them. It is wise for our government to offer encouragement to the Tito movement but, at the same time, our government should try to get restrictions imposed by Tito on labor and religious groups loosened."

Mr. Meany predicted that before the year's end he expected that the ICFTU would have affiliated with it every free trade union movement in the world. He also criticized the Marshall Plan for not helping the workers in the countries to the extent that it should.

"Workers in Italy and in France are working for starvation wages," he asserted. However, the lots of the workers have not improved very much and are far too low even by French standards."

Russia Holds Combat Edge Now

—From AFL Labor Monthly Survey

United Free World Can Defeat Russia

Washington.—The AFL Labor's Monthly Survey said in its current issue that the industrial strength of the United States and western Europe democracies is 4 or 5 times that of Russia and its satellites.

The democracies have used their industries to create higher living standards while USSR has diverted its production to military equipment and left her people in dreadful poverty. Charts show that while the steel production of USSR and her satellites is scarcely more than one-fifth that of the democracies, she has about six times as many tanks, a larger air force, and is maintaining and equipping a vastly larger army.

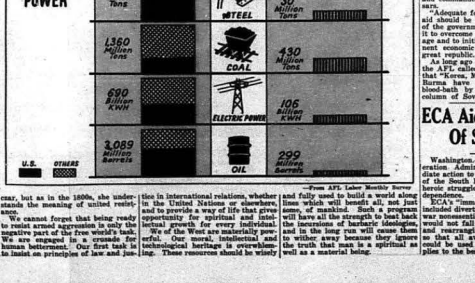
History has shown an interesting parallel to the present situation. After the Napoleonic wars in the early 1800s, Europe was threatened as today with aggression from powerful Russian forces. In those days the same European nations which today are members of the Atlantic Pact, made a united and unyielding stand against her imperialist drive, with the result that Russia finally withdrew to her own boundaries.

Stalin is a realist and understands determined resistance, as was well illustrated in Berlin on May 26. Although the communists had boasted that "by Whitsunday all Berlin will be ours," the planned invasion never came off—because the 3 occupying powers stood their ground and backed the voluntary resistance of the free Berliners with armed force. This experience is a good guide for the future. Russia today is under a red czar, but as in the 1800s, the understanding and meeting of united resistance.

We cannot forget that being ready to resist armed aggression is only the negative part of the free world's task. We are engaged in a crusade for human betterment. Our first task is to insist on principles of law and justice in international relations, whether in the United Nations or elsewhere, and to provide a way of life that gives opportunity for spiritual and intellectual growth for every individual.

We of the West are materially powerful. Our moral, intellectual and technological heritage is overwhelming. These resources should be wisely and fully used to build a world along lines which will benefit all, not just some, of mankind. Such a program will have all the strength to beat back the incursions of barbaric ideologies, and in the long run will cause them to wither away because they ignore the truth that man is a spiritual as well as a material being.

But U.S. Has Production Margin



—From AFL Labor Monthly Survey

AFL Favors Armed Aid Against Reds

Washington.—The latest AFL Executive Council statement on the Far East, adopted at the May meeting, favored arms aid, food and economic assistance to free countries to smash Moscow-controlled armed drives.

The Executive Council in a statement, "Unity For Freedom and Peace," said in part:

"The people of French Indo-China should be assured their national independence in a full understanding member of a French commonwealth of free nations. Military, economic and military aid should be provided by the United States to smash the Moscow-controlled armed bands fighting to enslave Indo-China and slave states of Russian imperialism.

"Immediate economic and military assistance should likewise be provided to safeguard Formosa and Korea from overrun by Chinese communist usurpers supported by Soviet power in their great republic.

"At least as far as the 1949 convention, the AFL has warned us in fact that "Korea, Malaya, Indo-China and India have been plunged into a blood-bath by the communist fifth column of Soviet imperialism."

ECA Aids Fight Of South Korea

Washington.—The Economic Cooperation Administration took immediate action to back up the resistance of the South Korean people in their heroic struggle to maintain their independence.

ECA's "immediate action" program included diverting all vessels carrying war noncontraband to ports where they would not fall into communist hands and rearranging shipping schedules so that all available supply vessels could be used to rush military supplies to the besieged peninsula.

U. S. Unions Protest Peron War On Argentine Maritime Workers

Washington.—AFL railroad and independent unions have asked the U. S. State Department and other government agencies to help end President Peron's war against the legitimate U. S. maritime workers' unions in the Argentine.

The representations were made to the U. S. State Department through Edward G. Miller, Jr., assistant secretary for Inter-American Affairs, with a request that Peron's conduct be kept in mind the next time he deals with the Peron government on matters concerning economic aid and other subjects.

U. S. union spokesmen were A. E. Lyon, executive secretary Railway Labor Executives Association; Emil Peterson, secretary-treasurer International Association of Machinists, and Serafino Romualdi, AFL Latin American representative.

Peron, through his Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Labor and Social Security, has discriminated against the Confederation of Maritime and Allied Trades and its individual members.

The International Transportworkers Federation alleges that "there is a fixed resolve, by denying the exercise of trade union freedom represented in Argentina by the Confederation of Maritime and Allied Trades."

Peron has decreed that these free trade unionists have "no legal status whatsoever as it is outside the general organization embracing all the workers of the country within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Labor and is not identified with the social policy pursued by the national government."

The government sponsors the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) which the AFL and other free trade unions of the world have condemned as a creature of the Peron dictatorship.

The action against the free independent unions affiliated with the International Transportworkers is the latest in the long series of crimes and persecutions perpetrated by the Peron government against free working men.

It is hoped that the matter will be presented to the Permanent Commission on Social Questions of trade union rights set up by the International Labor Organization in cooperation with the United Economic and Social Council.

The U. S. reportedly would support an investigation of this latest Peron outrage.

ILO Refuses Seat To Venezuelans

Geneva.—The credentials committee of the International Labor Organization recommended that the conference refuse to seat the Venezuelan worker delegate, Teofilo Morales, and his four advisers.

The committee found that the Venezuelan government had not discharged its obligation to guarantee the worker delegation in agreement with the most representative workers' organization.

The committee's report recalled that a Venezuelan decree of 1948 had suspended certain constitutional safeguards which were "especially important for trade union activities." Every year later, the report continued, the government had prolonged the suspension.

It followed, the report continued, that the Venezuelan workers' delegation "has inevitably been chosen from among the candidates put forward by organizations which do not have the representative character" required by the ILO's constitution.